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ANNA MARSHALL BELLOWS

**NEW
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NEW YORK STATE WOMEN

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HON. JAMES H. MANNING
EDITOR

THE ALBANY ARGUS ART PRESS
ALBANY, N. Y.—1914

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FREDERICK S. HILLS,
Compiler and Assistant Editor

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Anna Marshall Bellon.

ANNA MARSHALL BELLOWS

Anna Marshall Bellows, for a number of years regent of General Richard Montgomery Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Gloversville, and a leader in the social, religious and humanitarian activities of that city, was born in the town of Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., youngest child and only daughter of Levi T. and Mary Ann (Smith) Marshall. Her father was a man of prominence in Vernon and Gloversville, to which place he removed in 1869.

On her father's side of the family Mrs. Bellows is descended from Deacon Thomas Marshall, who was a resident of Boston, Mass., in 1634. Captain Samuel, son of Deacon Thomas, was a native of England and came to America with his father. He subsequently settled in Windsor, Conn., becoming a free-man of the colony in 1634, a deputy in 1637 and a magistrate in 1638. He rendered valiant service in King Philip's war, was made captain, and was killed in the battle of the "Great Swamp," December 19, 1675.

Mrs. Bellows has spent most of her life in Gloversville. When a young woman it became necessary to assume the management of a considerable estate. Her natural inclination and

scholarly accomplishments made it comparatively easy for her to grasp practical business affairs and carry them to successful issues.

On April 11, 1883, Anna Marshall was united in marriage to Edwin Philip Bellows, this date being the fifty-first anniversary of the wedding of the bride's father and mother. Mr. Bellows was born at Gloversville, March 24, 1851. He is a graduate of the Albany Law School, and is a lawyer of ability. For several years he was engaged in the practice of his profession at Albany, being associated in partnership with the late Gansevoort de W. Hurlburt.

A woman of boundless energy, great executive ability and large sympathies, Mrs. Bellows early took rank as a leader among the women of her city. She is in the van of every organized movement looking toward the betterment of moral and physical conditions in humanity, and in securing more humane conditions for animals. The local Humane Society owes its founding and first organization to her hearty insistence, and she has continued to be most active and helpful in the work of the society, which is now a branch of the Mohawk and Hudson Humane Society. Of this organization she has for years been a director. Mrs. Bellows has also taken a most active interest in the Gloversville Young Woman's Christian Association, and it has grown stronger and farther reaching in its influence under her as president. She is a member of the

First Congregational Church of Gloversville, has long been prominently identified with all of its worthy activities, and for three years served as president of the Ladies' Benevolent Society of the church. She is a member of Cayadutta Chapter No. 66, order of the Eastern Star, of Gloversville, and is also a member of the Washington Headquarters Association of New York.

Active as she has been in other lines of effort, Mrs Bellows is most widely known for her success in D. A. R. work in which she has been signally efficient. Long a devoted member of the chapter, she was in 1906 elected regent of General Philip Montgomery Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and at each succeeding election has been re-elected to the office. She has also served as a delegate to numerous State and National conventions of the order. The importance of Mrs. Bellows' work along these lines is shown by the following from the pen of a prominent citizen of Gloversville:

"The Daughters of the American Revolution is an organization which commands our profound respect. Its members are continually rediscovering American History and seeing that it does not get lost again. They label it in bronze, and in a way which cuts deep into our patriotism and remembrance. Besides marking all Revolutionary events of general interest, they find in many old, disused cemeteries the graves of unremembered Revolutionary heroes; and it has become a wide-

spread practice of the order to rehabilitate these graveyards that have long been overgrown with weeds and wild shrubbery, cleaning them all out, trimming the shade trees, leveling the tumuli, straightening and cleaning the slabs, keeping the grass cut, and setting new markers to the graves of the old soldiers, with a bronze tablet on the gate post, thus transforming grew-some thickets into shrines. This special work appeals to Mrs. Anna Marshall Bellows; and to her lasting credit is the transforming of such a cemetery in her own city, which was found rich in Revolutionary heroes who would have remained forgotten except for the personal effort of this grand woman. Her spirit and purpose is an object lesson which cannot be misunderstood until the last American is dead."

Mrs. Bellows is a woman of most winning personality. She is especially gifted as a public speaker, and has made many notable addresses, both at home and at the various conventions to which she has been a delegate. But few women have given more freely of their time and means toward the betterment of humanity than has Mrs. Bellows. In every enterprise in which she has been interested, she has been a most active and efficient worker, knowing no such word as fail; and by her energy, devotion and unbounded enthusiasm has been a most powerful factor in its ultimate success.

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CLARA L. PARSONS

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General History of New York

NEW YORK STATE WOMEN

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FREDERICK S. HILLS
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER



THE ALBANY ARGUS ART PRESS
ALBANY, N. Y.—1936

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Clara L. Parsons

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The Argus Company
Aug. 2, '36





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Clara L. Parsons

Wm. Lloyd Garrison



CLARA L. PARSONS

1878-1936

Clara L. Parsons, for more than a quarter of a century director of the Identification Bureau of the New York State Department of Correction, where she carved for herself national fame in the now well-established science of fingerprinting, and became internationally known and accepted as an expert in her profession, was born in Greenwich, New York, March 29, 1878, daughter of William C. and Susie W. (Lansing) Parsons. Her father, William C. Parsons was born in 1852 and died in 1896. Her mother, Susie W. (Lansing) Parsons, a woman to whose universal love of humanity was added the charm of a delightful personality, was born January 2, 1859, and died November 30, 1934.

Miss Parsons obtained her early schooling at Greenwich Academy, and later matriculated at the Albany Business College in preparation for a clerical career. Upon her graduation she obtained a bookkeeping position in the Tilden Laboratories at Lebanon, N. Y. From there she went to Glens Falls where she was a stenographer and bookkeeper with the law firm of King & Angel.

In 1907 she returned to Albany to become auditor in the Hampton Hotel, a position she relinquished six months later to accept an opening with the Prisons Commission. From that time she began to carve for herself a niche in the world of criminal identification. Upon the retirement of the then director, Miss Florence DeForest, Miss Parsons was promoted to the position of Bertillon indexer. In the reorganization of the state government, the Prisons Commission became the Department of Correction and Miss Parsons was made head of the Bureau of Identification.

Fingerprinting, first introduced to the public as a stunt at the St. Louis World's Fair, was later adopted by police departments as an infallible and permanent method of criminal identification. By 1916, when it was in general use by departments throughout the world, Miss Parsons had devoted years of study to the system which later was to bring her international prominence.

A member of the National Identification Association and of the state organization, she was in charge of hundreds of thousands of Bertillon records in the state files. A remarkable memory enabled her to recognize the loops and arches and whorls and composites—tell-tale marks left by the impression of a finger at any time in the life of a person.

Just as she had pioneered in the fingerprinting system as a means of identifying criminals, so had Miss

Parsons led the movement for universal fingerprinting of all persons—a movement only recently receiving the recognition she would have given it years ago. She frequently expressed regret that the public generally considered fingerprints of value only in dealing with the criminal element. She was an advocate of a program in which every person would place his prints on file as an aid to identification in the event of accident or death.

She lived to see her plan receive national recognition and took pride in the fact that in her private files she had the fingerprints of former Governor Alfred E. Smith, President Roosevelt, the late former Vice-President Curtis and Governor Lehman.

Her records were available to police in an emergency at any time, night or day. No man-hunt of note was more than minutes old before she would throw open the records to police in order that photographs and records of fingerprint classifications of the wanted person could be circularized without delay.

No woman in state service had been publicized as much as Miss Parsons, and few persons had the knowledge of modern identification methods she possessed. In the state service for nearly twenty-eight years, she had devoted all of that time in the bureau she was named to head but a few years after she entered it.

Miss Parsons was a deep student of civic affairs and of public issues. She possessed a wonderful memory

and her mind was stored with a wealth of information. She was a great reader and her reading covered practically the entire field of human affairs. She wielded a graceful pen and her compositions were masterpieces of direct and powerful expression of thought. She was a charming conversationist and her utterances sparkled with wit and humor.

She continued her devotion to the State Identification Bureau to the very last for she collapsed while addressing a large audience on the science of fingerprinting, a subject she perhaps knew better than any other woman, and passed away during the hour.

Clara L. Parsons died February 21, 1936. The Binghamton, New York Press, of the following day, commenting on her life work and service to the State, said editorially:

“Anyone who ever had anything to do with criminal identification work in New York State knew Clara Parsons of the State Identification Bureau at Albany. Not only knew her but respected and admired the gray-haired Nemesis of gangdom who moved so serenely and surely among her classification files and on whose word police departments hung, breathless, for the signal that meant arrest or a new pursuit of individuals. Clara Parsons was a woman to challenge the attention and the respect of the hardest-boiled cop that ever traced a criminal to his lair. She knew what she was doing. When she began she began with

Bertillon. In a few years she was going on from where Bertillon left off. Loops, whorls and vagaries of those identifying minute lines on the ball of thumb and fingers constituted the world in which she lived; a world that she made her own by right of intelligent conquest.

“By any reckoning she must be accounted one of the officers of society’s general staff in that period of identification pioneering when courts in New York State first began to admit fingerprint identification as admissible evidence. Clara Parsons saw the whole long battle on that point through to successful conclusion; saw the day when her work became recognized at full value; knew the satisfaction of having police departments all over the country turn to her and her errorless files. In that lay her life’s satisfaction. Generally speaking she was not largely known to the public outside the sphere of the Albany newspapers which now and again featured her and her work. With that she was wholly content. It mattered little to her where the spotlight of fame played as long as she knew she was getting the answer.

“Many women have risen to greater attention in public service, but of all those who have held public office in New York State none stood higher than Clara Parsons in the estimation of men who knew. If the women of the State of New York ever desire to erect among the elms of Capitol Park a statue to exemplify

the service of Women to the State they will do no better than to have fashioned an heroic mold of that able, silver-haired woman—pointing with nemetic authority at a crouching criminal and bearing the inscription ‘By the Works of Their Hands Shall Ye Know Them.’ ”

The woman who has lived for others and who has brought into exercise the best energies of her mind and heart that she might make the world the brighter and better for her having lived in it, cannot fail to be possessed of a serenity of soul which makes itself felt in every word and in every action. Such a woman was the late Clara L. Parsons. She made her way upward by energy, foresight and sound judgment. She was keenly concerned for the welfare of the State and ready at all times to serve the public interest. Always courageous, she was never more so than when, as it seemed to her, a principle was involved; she would fight to the last for the right as she saw it. A woman of the most painstaking conscientious devotion to whatever task she undertook, she was at the same time a most engaging and lovable personality, and a loyal friend.

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GEORGIANA GRAY JEWETT

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HON JAMES H. MANNING
EDITOR

THE ALBANY ARGUS ART PRESS
ALBANY, N. Y.—1922

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Georgiana Gray Jewett

FREDERICK S. HILLS,
Compiler and Assistant Editor.



George and Tracy Jewett

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GEORGIANA GRAY JEWETT

Mrs. Charles Allen Jewett (Georgiana Gray), well known through the central part of the State, and especially throughout the length and breadth of the beautiful Mohawk Valley, was born at Port Jackson, Montgomery county, New York, February 23, 1856, only daughter of John Joseph Gray and Maria Lovisa Curtiss. Her father, John J. Gray, was born at Ephratah, in the town of Palatine, New York, July 2, 1814, the son of Jacob and Hannah (Everson) Gray, and grandson of Major Samuel Gray, who was a soldier of the Revolution and commanded troops at the battle of Oriskany. John J. Gray was educated in the District schools and at the Canajoharie Academy. After teaching school for several terms he went to Illinois where he became a farmer and contractor. He was a business man of much ability, and becoming interested in railroad work he superintended the first work done on the Chicago and Galena railway. After several years he returned east and located at Port Jackson, Montgomery county, where he spent the remainder of his life. For many years he was a success-

ful contractor of large undertakings, in the building of railroads, in Vermont and New Hampshire. He also secured contracts, enlarging, deepening and widening a portion of the Erie Canal at Amsterdam, his contract covering a distance of six miles; he also bought land in the town of Florida. Some of it now, after 75 years or more, is still in the possession of Mrs. Jewett. Mr. Gray died at Amsterdam, January 1, 1899, in his 85th year.

Mrs. Jewett's mother, Maria L. Curtiss, was of colonial and revolutionary ancestry; she was the daughter of Warren Hotchkiss Curtiss, born April 14, 1790, who, on July 20, 1812, married Katherine Pettingill. Her (Katherine Pettingill's) grandfather, Captain Samuel Pettingill, was a soldier of the Revolution and was killed at the battle of Oriskany where the brave General Herkimer fell and Major Samuel Gray was engaged. Captain Samuel Pettingill married Elizabeth Cline, who was born in Holland; their son Samuel married Christiana, daughter of Captain William Snook, of Snook's Corners, Florida. Captain Snook was a descendant of the Emigrant Snook, who settled on a grant of six hundred and forty acres in the town of Florida, Montgomery county.

Mrs. Jewett's grandfather, Warren H. Curtiss, with his sister Eunice, who later became the wife of Thomas

Haslett, emigrated to the Mohawk Valley from Connecticut and bought a small piece of land in the town of Florida, directly across the river from Amsterdam. Warren H. Curtiss was one of the first to manufacture hats in the Mohawk Valley, a trade which he had previously followed in Connecticut. Mr. Curtiss died November 9, 1830.

Mrs. Jewett was educated in select schools in Amsterdam, at the Amsterdam Academy and the Hudson River Institute at Claverack, Columbia county, at that time one of the most widely known of the educational institutions of the country. Her entire life has been spent in the beautiful and historical Mohawk Valley and she is very familiar with its early history, which, by the way, her ancestors were so much a part of. She has been an eye witness to the many changes that have taken place, in that section, during the last half century. Mrs. Jewett is a member of the Amsterdam Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, a member of the Century Club and a former member of the Montgomery County Historical Society. She has for years been an active worker in the Sarah Jane Sanford Home for Elderly Women and has been most liberal, as was Mr. Jewett, in the support of all local charities and charitable institutions.

On September 6, 1876, at the age of twenty, Georgiana Gray was united in marriage to Charles Allen Jewett. Mr. Jewett was born at Chaumont, Jefferson county, New York, November 11, 1854, only son of Dr. Henry W. and Mary (Allen) Jewett. He attended the Amsterdam Academy and the Hudson River Institute as did Mrs. Jewett. For many years he was active in the development of his properties in Port Jackson. In 1901 he was appointed a member of the Board of Water Commissioners holding the position for a period of nine years through appointments of the Common Council. Mr. Jewett was also for a time a member of the Amsterdam Board of Trade; with Mrs. Jewett he was an attendant of the First Reformed Church. Mr. Jewett was a man of striking appearance and was honored and loved by all who knew him. He died November 23, 1920.

Mrs. Jewett is the mother of one child, a daughter, Florence Gray Jewett, born November 30, 1877. She married, on October 21, 1902, George Henry Churchill, a prominent business man of Amsterdam. Mr. Churchill is a member of the Amsterdam Board of Trade.

Mrs. Jewett resides in a beautiful home erected about twenty years ago, and surrounded by spacious grounds. On this site, many years ago stood a tavern and following that the original farm house which was removed in

1900 to make room for the modern home now occupied by the family.

While Mrs. Jewett was trained in the teachings of the schools and received a finished education, it was not done at the expense of that other kind of teaching that would render her a good housekeeper. On the contrary, from early childhood she was trained in the ways of industry; she was taught every branch of housework and these accomplishments have remained with her throughout the years, for she is a firm believer in the doctrine of always having something useful to do.

While Mrs. Jewett has many admirers throughout the Valley, she has earned the affection of the people of her home city among whom her daily life is spent and where she continues her charitable activities unabated at the present time.

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ANNA LAURELLA CLARKE GILES

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Anna L. Liles

ANNA LAURELLA CLARKE GILES

Anna L. (Clarke) Giles, who for more than forty years has been a resident of Troy, New York, and for many of those years, has been active in Troy's charitable, philanthropic and religious activities, was born in Albany, New York, January 28, 1861. Her father was Hon. Gaylord Judd Clarke, born in Owego, Tioga County, February 25, 1836. He was a graduate of Union College, class of 1859, and was for years a Judge, residing at El Paso, Texas. Although a layman, he founded the first Protestant church in El Paso and read the first service. The Mission, at the request of Mrs. Clarke, was named St. Clement, in honor of their little son who died about that time. There is now a new church on the site and it bears the same name. In the new church are beautiful stained glass windows and a bronze tablet placed there in memory of the founder, by Mrs. Giles and her mother. The bronze tablet is inscribed as follows: "In loving memory of Gaylord Judd Clarke,

Founder of this church; born February 25, 1836, died December 7, 1870, — a just man and perfect — who walked with God." About 1915, Mrs. Giles also gave the church a fine organ in memory of her mother.

Mrs. Giles' mother was Frances Helen Corey, daughter of Allen and Ann (Whipple) Corey. Her grandmother, Ann Whipple, was a member of a fine old Quaker family of Rhode Island, contemporary with Roger Williams. One of her ancestors, Job Whipple, came from Cumberland Hill, R. I., and founded, at what is now Greenwich, N. Y., a village known as Whipple City, and he was its first president. He installed the first spinning frames and was the first to manufacture yarn, which was jobbed out to the women of the surrounding country to be woven into cloth. The women rode on horseback from Whitehall, Granville and as far as Vermont, taking their pay in yarn for the use of their own families. Mr. Whipple was an energetic business man and saw clearly the future of the place. He sent his son-in-law, Mr. Mowry, to England, and although positively forbidden admission to the English mills, he secured enough knowledge to enable him to build knitting machinery here, and thus commenced in Whipple City, the industry that more than all others has made the prosperity of the country. This was the first attempt to manufacture cotton goods in the State, and the success of the enterprise caused the

speedy establishment of many factories in other locations. History says that: "after Mr. Mowry's return from Europe, a suspicious package came to him from that country, that the father of Miss Martha Evans threw it from the mill window into the river, and when it was opened it proved to be an infernal machine."

Anna L. (Clarke) Giles was born in Albany, New York, January 28, 1861, however, she might well be termed a southern girl, for she was educated in St. Mary's Episcopal school and at Knoxville College, Knoxville, Illinois. She was graduated from the latter institution in the class of 1879. She shortly after returned east and on December 15, 1880, was united in marriage to Mr. Leonard House Giles, of Troy, N. Y. She still resides in the beautiful home where she came as a bride more than forty years ago.

Mrs. Giles is a woman of attractive personality, of broad culture and of pleasing address. In the social life of Troy she has been a leader for years. Her interests are many and varied. To the many useful lines of effort with which she is identified she brings a rare degree of enthusiasm, energy and executive ability of a high order. Mrs. Giles is a member of the Troy Chamber of Commerce and of the City Planning Committee. She is a member of several literary clubs, is Vice-President of the Young Women's Christian Association, and Treasurer of

the Woman's Auxiliary of the Young Men's Christian Association. She is a daughter of the American Revolution, was twice State Regent, and is now a director of the State Association.

Mrs. Giles is a life member of the National Geographical Society, the American Forestry Association and of the American Navy League. She is deeply interested in all civic matters of her home city as well as its religious activities, she is a member and very active in the First Baptist Church of Troy, the second oldest church in the city, which has just celebrated its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary.

With Mr. Giles, Mrs. Giles has traveled extensively, visiting many places of interest in the southern seas and in Mediterranean Europe, and throughout the Holy Land. Their plans are all made for another extended European trip in 1922.

Mr. Giles, one of Troy's most highly honored business men, was born in Rome, N. Y., May 23, 1841, and there received his education. At the age of nineteen in 1860, he settled in Troy where he has since resided. After coming to Troy he spent some time with the J. M. Warren Hardware Company, and later was a partner in his father's stove manufacturing firm. In 1888 he established a plating and manufacturing business under the firm name of Giles & Nielsen.

Mr. Giles is deeply interested in the welfare of his adopted city. He is a member of the Troy Chamber of Commerce, of the Sons of the American Revolution, and for many years has been an active member of and is now Senior Deacon of the First Baptist Church, an organization which has benefited through the interest and generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Giles, who, in 1920, presented the church with a beautiful organ.



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Compiler and Assistant Editor

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Johnia Trask.

KATRINA TRASK

Katrina Trask (Mrs. Spencer Trask), author and humanitarian, is the daughter of George L. Nichols and his wife, Christina Cole. Mrs. Trask's father was of English ancestry, while her mother was descended from sturdy Dutch stock. Her education was carried on in the best private schools and under private tutors. In 1874 Katrina Nichols married Spencer Trask, the New York banker. Four children were born, but all died in childhood.

During the lifetime of her children, Mrs. Trask, an unusually accomplished and brilliant woman, devoted herself to their education, to the life of her home and to society. It was not until after the death of her children that she gave herself seriously to literary work; she wrote various magazine articles, poems, essays and stories. Her work in the realm of literary art has won her a high place among modern English and American writers. Her most important books are: "Mors et Victoria," "Night and Morning," "King Alfred's Jewel," "The Little Town of Bethlehem," and "In the Vanguard." Of "Night and Morning" the London Standard said in part: "This is a short blank verse poem, at once narrative and re-

ligious — or perhaps one should say ethical — of very unusual quality. The lovers meet in a garden described in verse that Keats might almost have written. An incident from the New Testament could not have been treated with more reticence or a higher devotional feeling, and the style is worthy of the spirit that informs it. Mrs. Trask's blank verse is of exceptional excellence, smooth, flexible and varied in its rhythms. She is unquestionably a poet."

The extract given above is typical of the trained critics' opinions of Mrs. Trask's literary works, several of which were at first published anonymously. "The Little Town of Bethlehem," a play for the Christmastide, has never been published. It has, however, been many times presented on the stage to enthusiastic audiences, two seasons by the famous Ben Greet Players. "King Alfred's Jewel" was first published anonymously, and splendid notices came to it on both sides of the sea before the author's name was known. The most notable of all the reviews given of this work was that by Mr. Henry Mills Alden, in *The New York Times*: "The English-speaking world has waited a thousand years for a worthy dramatic impersonation of King Alfred. And here it is," said Mr. Alden.

Mrs. Trask's sparkling play, "In the Vanguard," published in 1913, was an instantaneous success, and gave new impetus to the discussion of the question of Arbitration. In

its first year the book was translated, the German translation being made by Dr. Ernst Richard of Columbia University. Its dramatic appeal for universal peace is strong, logical, and convincing in its argument.

Mrs. Trask's success as an author is undoubtedly the result of her power of description, her clear concise English and the faculty to hold the reader's sympathy from the beginning to the end; also to the fact that there is nothing in her books but what is pure and elevating. Art and foreign travel are subjects on which she is well versed, she and her husband having traveled extensively abroad, visiting the noted art centers of the old world. She has been indefatigable in the founding and sustaining of a free lecture course in a part of her beautiful home, and has done everything in her power to promote knowledge and culture among the young people, of whom she is particularly fond.

As a hostess she is charmingly gracious and hospitable, having the ready tact that enables her to make all guests feel at home. While she has thousands of admirers throughout the country, she is dearly loved by the people of her home town among whom her daily life is passed.

Throughout her life Mrs. Trask has been active in humanitarian and altruistic work. Not alone through her writings has she worked for the betterment of mankind, but she has shown great interest in all public matters, and has actively

participated in public affairs. She is an active Democrat, though not a suffragist, and is influential in politics, working personally for good citizenship and good government. From the first year of their summer residence in Saratoga Springs, Mrs. Trask has always been interested in its welfare, and actively shared in Mr. Trask's plans and hopes for the Saratoga Reservation. Delightful Yaddo reflects her love of the beautiful as her books show her devotion to the ideals of universal peace and universal brotherhood. It has been announced that, after Mrs. Trask's death, Yaddo is dedicated to a most unusual and original plan, the details of which are not yet known, but it is for the benefit of writers and other artists. The grounds have always been open to the public. The motive of Mrs. Trask's life may well be learned from her own words: "Wealth brings an obligation to help others. That is all that wealth is for. Wealth is a crime unless it is used in service."

Mrs. Trask is a woman of great beauty, tall and graceful, and giving first of all an impression of great mental and spiritual power. Excellent as is the accompanying likeness, it can give no adequate idea of the beauty of this noble woman. It can only suggest the exquisite whiteness of the complexion, the clear, deep blue of the eyes, and the charm of a singularly radiant and beautiful personality.

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MRS. CHARLES H. BURBECK

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Emily J. D. Burbeck

MRS. CHARLES H. BURBECK.

Mrs. Charles Hempsted Burbeck (Emily Frances Derrick), whose ancestors were among the most prominent of the earlier settlers of eastern New York, was born in Brunswick, Rensselaer County, N. Y., October 18, 1835. Her father, Charles Derrick, was for years a well known farmer and business man of the town of Brunswick, he was born January 14, 1796, and died August 7, 1851. Her mother was Hannah Hayner, born June 17, 1800, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Derrick) Hayner. She was a sister of the late Calvin Hayner, for many years a prominent banker and business man of Troy, who enjoyed to the fullest the confidence and esteem of the community in which the greater part of his life was spent. Mrs. Derrick was a woman who possessed a cultivated mind and manner in the highest degree pleasing. She made her home all that it was in the power of any woman to make it. She was the mother of thirteen children. The last years of her life were spent with her daughter, Emily (Mrs. Burbeck), who is the

only surviving member of the family. She died at the advanced age of eighty-seven. Under the loving influence and care of this saintly mother, Emily grew to girlhood and was educated in the district school at Haynerville, near Brunswick. As the years went by and she reached womanhood, it was apparent that Emily had inherited much of the sweetness and devotion to others that her mother to such a large degree possessed.

Mrs. Burbeck's uncle, Calvin Hayner, was born in the town of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, October 25, 1805. At the age of fifteen he went to Troy where he secured employment and where, in after years, he became one of the ablest of the city's substantial business men, and was widely recognized as a financier of great ability and foresight. Shortly after the founding of the Mutual Bank of Troy in 1852, Mr. Hayner was elected a member of the Board of Directors, and in 1855 was elected Vice-President. This institution was made a National Bank March 23, 1865, under the name of the Mutual National Bank of Troy. Mr. Hayner continued to serve as Vice-President until January 12, 1876, when he was elected President, which office he still held at the time of his death. He was a man of unimpeachable integrity, and was recognized as a thorough Christian gentleman of the old school.

Mr. Hayner was a great lover of his home, and after the death of his wife, which occurred November 27, 1872, he naturally turned to his favorite niece, Emily Derrick, to come and look after his wants and to take the care of his home. She came, and such care and devotion as she showered on him few men have ever received, and all she ever asked in return for these months and years of constant love and care was the privilege to be of service to her uncle. Mr. Hayner died July 5, 1878, and although nearly forty-five years have passed, her love for his memory has never diminished, and she has never allowed an opportunity to pass to perpetuate his memory in any way she thought fitting. He lives in her mind to-day as he did fifty years ago.

On July 11, 1885, Emily Derrick married Charles Hempsted Burbeck, a native of Canajoharie, Montgomery County, having been born there February 8, 1837. He was graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1859, and became a very noted physician and surgeon. In 1862 he entered the War of the Rebellion as a volunteer, and was enrolled in the 60th New York Infantry at Warrenton, Va., to serve for three years, and was mustered into the service as Assistant Surgeon on August 11, 1862. Dr. Burbeck was promoted and was mustered in as Surgeon of the 102d Infantry, November 5, 1864,

having received his commission as Surgeon on the 25th of the preceding month. He served with the Union Army throughout the war, and saw much hard fighting, having been with General Sherman on his march to the sea. After the war he practiced for a time at Brunswick, but later settled in Troy where he built up a large practice. He died in Troy May 9, 1914.

Mrs. Burbeck is a woman whose life challenges admiration at every turn, her devotion to her uncle, to her husband and to her family, have been given freely and fully, the largeness of her life and thoughts have made her a great help to others, and she has won the respect of all who know her, because she has fully deserved it.





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HON. JAMES H. MANNING
EDITOR



THE ALBANY ARGUS ART PRESS
ALBANY, N. Y.—1920

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FREDERICK S. HILLS,
Compiler and Assistant Editor.

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Helen M. Trickerbaekes

HELEN M. KNICKERBACKER.

Helen M. (Blood) Knickerbacker, widow of Henry Knickerbacker, was born at Bloodville, near Ballston Spa, Saratoga county, N. Y., January 17, 1838, daughter of Isaiah and Jane Eliza (Gates) Blood. Mrs. Knickerbacker comes of prominent ancestry, is a woman of rare culture and ability, as well as one of great business acumen.

Her father, Isaiah Blood, was one of Saratoga county's most distinguished citizens. Himself a practical toolmaker, he purchased the business of his father, Sylvester Blood, and from a comparatively small business, built it up until it became one of the largest scythe, axe and tool manufacturing establishments in the United States. He was a man of great prominence in public affairs. On three different occasions he was elected to represent the town of Milton in the Board of Supervisors of Saratoga county, was Member of Assembly from his district, and was twice elected to the Senate of the State. He was serving as State Senator at the time of his death, November 29, 1870.

Helen M. (Blood) Knickerbacker attended different schools, and at the age of eighteen finished her education in Madam Canda's French School in New York City. In the year following her graduation she was united in marriage to Henry Knickerbacker, son of Abraham and Mary Ann (Hale) Knickerbacker and grandson of Colonel John Knickerbacker. Henry Knickerbacker belonged to one of the oldest families of Rensselaer county, was a member of the Union College Class of 1853, and had already begun to make a name for himself in the business world. For years, up to the time of his death, June 10, 1897, Mr. Knickerbacker was prominently identified with the brokerage business in New York City.

While Mrs. Knickerbacker was well trained in the learning of the schools and received a finished education, it was not done at the expense of that other kind of learning that would render her a good housekeeper. On the contrary, from early childhood she was trained in the ways of industry. She was taught every banch of housework — sewing, knitting, ironing, etc.—and these accomplishments have remained with her throughout the years. To-day, at the age of eighty-two, she is never idle, but always has her needle or knitting at hand, for she is a firm believer in the doctrine of always having something useful to do — and doing it. She has always been par-

ticularly expert with the knitting needles and still is; and many could testify to the warmth of her knitting as well as the warmth of her heart.

This is but one of the many kind and useful things Mrs. Knickerbacker has done. She has always been a free giver, but her numerous philanthropies have been quiet in the extreme. She has taken an active interest in the charitable enterprises of Saratoga Springs, her summer home for many years, and has been a most liberal contributor to their maintenance. She has, however, always been strongly opposed to having anything said of her charitable work — particularly of having anything published concerning it — for what she has done has always been done for humanity's sake, with no desire for notoriety and no thought of reward.

Mrs. Knickerbacker has firmly established beliefs on the leading questions of the day, and on most matters of general interest she is well informed. One of her earnest convictions is that the proper sphere of women's activities is in the home, not in politics. In conformity with this belief she has never voted, and is firm in her statement that she never will.

Chief among Mrs. Knickerbacker's recreations for many years has been travel. If one were to enumerate the various capitals she has visited, the list would include

those of nearly every country in the world outside of China and Japan. For years she has made the visiting of new and interesting places a hobby, and in consequence there are but few parts of the world with which she is not familiar. These widely extended travels, including as they have visits to less frequented locations as well as to the show places of the world, have made her an unusually broad minded woman with a truly cosmopolitan view-point. She has had many interesting experiences, and has met many people of international renown. Mrs. Knickerbacker was in Baden-Baden, Germany, when the World War broke out on August 14, 1914. With her companion, Miss Emma Mines, who has been with her for more than fifteen years, she remained in Baden-Baden until September 27. They were practically the only ones left out of more than four hundred Americans who were stopping at the hotel when the war broke out. On October 15, they sailed from Rotterdam for home. During these months of war-time in Germany, they were treated with every consideration and were given every attention that any country could extend to a guest.

In addition to being a devotee of travel, Mrs. Knickerbacker is a great lover of art and of music, and is exceedingly fond of flowers. In fact, she takes delight in all beautiful things, whether in nature or art; and

because of her appreciation of the truly fine things of the world, her journeyings hither and thither have afforded her a degree of pleasure beyond the ordinary.

Mrs. Knickerbacker was the mother of two children, both boys; William Hale Knickerbacker, who died August 22, 1913, and Henry Knickerbacker, Jr., a graduate of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in the Class of 1887, who died February 13, 1888.





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EDITOR

THE ALBANY ARGUS ART PRESS
ALBANY, N. Y — 1920

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FREDERICK S. HILLS,
Compiler and Assistant Editor.

1892
Chicago
Mar. 30 '92

Susan B. W. Munson

SUSAN BABCOCK HOPKINS MUNSON.

Susan B. H. (Mrs. Samuel L.) Munson, former State Vice-Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution, member of the Society of New England Women, and since its formation president of the Women's Board of the Homeopathic Hospital, Albany, N. Y., was born at Hudson, N. Y., June 29, 1844, daughter of Lemuel J. and Hannah (Babcock) Hopkins. She is of New England ancestry. Her grandfather, Ezra Hopkins, was born at Norwich, Conn., and his wife, Anne Paddock, was a native of Nantucket, R. I. Her grandfather on her mother's side, George Babcock, and his wife, Mary Gavit, were both natives of Rhode Island, and were married there. Her mother and her maternal grandmother were born at Watch Hill Point, R. I. For twenty years a member of the Babcock family served as rector of Christ Episcopal Church, at Westerly, R. I.

During her babyhood Mrs. Munson's parents removed to Poughkeepsie, where she spent her early girlhood and attended the public schools. When she was fifteen years of age her parents removed to Albany, and she became a student in Professor Lewis Collins' private school, from which she was graduated three years later.

On May 21, 1868, she married Samuel Lyman Munson; and for several years thereafter her life was devoted

to bringing up a large family, for she was the mother of seven children, all but one of whom reached maturity. After the family had grown up, Mrs. Munson began to interest herself in outside matters. Since then there has been but few things of importance in her city or, in fact, in the State, that has not felt the influence of her strong personality. As a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, she was for seven years regent of Gansevoort Chapter, of Albany, and later was elected State Vice-Regent, and after refusing the office of State Regent became a member of the State Advisory Board of the D. A. R. She also became a member of the Mayflower Society and of the Society of Founders and Patriots. At the time Mrs. Munson was Vice-Regent of the New York State D. A. R., the organization was asked to name a battleship, and the name chosen was "the George Washington." A bronze tablet was placed in the ship, and this tablet bears the name of Mrs. Munson as Vice-Regent of the D. A. R. of the State. The sponsor at the time of the unveiling of the tablet was Mrs. Munson's granddaughter, Susan Elizabeth Lyman. This battleship has since become famous as "the President's ship," as well as by conveying the King and Queen of the Belgians to and from America. Mrs. Munson is a member of the Society of New England Women, and a member of the executive committee of the New York Colony to decide on the form of a memorial for the Tri-Centennial of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock.

Mrs. Munson has been and is very active in charitable

and religious work. She has been president of the Woman's Board of the Homeopathic Hospital since the board was organized twenty-one years ago. Its work consists of furnishing and caring for the Nurses Home of the Homeopathic Hospital, membership in the board being limited to thirty-eight members. As president of the board and for the benefit of the hospital, Mrs. Munson inaugurated the first "Tag Day" in Albany, as well as two charity balls and two immense card parties held at the Armory, which were attended by the Governor and his Staff and a vast number of the prominent citizens of Albany. All proved a financial success, the tag day alone netting more than sixteen thousand dollars. Mrs. Munson is a member of the Madison Avenue Reformed Church, and is very active in church work as a member of the Woman's Missionary Society and as president of The King's Daughters. She was for years president of the Associated Charities of Albany.

In patriotic and relief work during the World War, Mrs. Munson took a prominent part. In addition to rendering loyal and useful service in the various forms of activity in which the women of the country were called upon to participate, she was the founder of the Women's United Service Alliance of Albany, organized for the benefit of the women whose husbands and sons fought in the World War. It was a very successful undertaking. Much work was done for the Red Cross in the hall which was hired for meeting and work purposes. As a matter of fact it proved to be one of the most useful things carried on by the women of Albany during the

war — and there were in the neighborhood of eighty women's organizations doing war work. Its activities were brought to a fitting close with a supper for the returned soldiers, at which Governor Smith and Former Governor Glynn were speakers. Twenty-two hundred soldiers were seated at supper in the Armory at one time, and their wants were looked after by five hundred of Albany's society women. The success of this undertaking, which was done entirely by the women of Albany, was due in a large measure to Mrs. Munson, assisted by the other members of the Womens United Service Alliance.

Mrs. Munson is a woman of attractive personality, of broad culture and pleasing address. In the social life of the city she has been a leader for years. Her interests are many and varied. To the many useful lines of effort with which she is identified she brings a rare degree of enthusiasm, energy and executive ability of a high order. She is a great lover of relics of days gone by, and deeply interested in all that pertains to the early history of her people, as well as an active participant in the events of to-day. In spite of her busy life she has found time to indulge that love for collecting that seems to be inherent in most people of culture and taste. Her collection of Staffordshire cottage figures and chimney ornaments is a large and valuable one. These were made in the potteries of Staffordshire in the early half of the eighteenth century, and consist of various kinds of figures, some in common Staffordshire crockery, others in really fine porcelain that are truly beautiful. There are figures of cows, sheep and other animals in various colors, but more inter-

esting and generally of a higher order of workmanship are the peasant groups, houses, and single figures which were originally supposed to be used in pairs. The houses in this ware vary from cottages to castles, and many are beautifully colored. The best known couples are the dairyman and the milkmaid, the shepherd and the shepherdess and the squire and his dame. Many of these ornaments are the work of the well known potters of the period, and bear the mark of such master potters of Staffordshire as Enoch Wood and Ralph Woods.

As a hostess Mrs. Munson is charmingly gracious and hospitable, having the ready tact that enables her to make all guests feel at home. While she has many admirers throughout the country, she has earned the affection of the people of her home city among whom her daily life is spent and where she continues her charitable activities unabated at the present day.



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THE ALBANY ARGUS ART PRESS
ALBANY, N. Y.—1925

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Rhoda Thompson

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PUBLISHER
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FREDERICK S. HILLS,
Assistant Editor and Publisher.



Charles Thompson

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RHODA THOMPSON

Rhoda Thompson, one of the most widely known and best beloved residents of Saratoga county, member of a family whose name has been linked with every development of the section since before the county of Saratoga was formed, was born at Rose Hill, one of the beauty spots, of Saratoga county, in 1833, daughter of Judge James Thompson and Mary (Stansbury) Thompson. Her grandfather, John Thompson, was first judge of Saratoga county and her father held the office of County Judge for several terms. Her brother, John W. Thompson, served as Surrogate of the county and was one of the founders of the Ballston Spa National Bank, being president of that institution at the time of his death in 1892.

Miss Thompson inherited the keen legal mind for which the family were noted and managed the fortune which descended to her with wisdom and ability. She took an active interest in all the affairs of the community and contributed to every worthy charity. For a long time she kept the Milton Hill District School in successful operation, repairing and modernizing the schoolhouse and giving each year sufficient funds to balance the budget. She was loved by all in the neighborhood surrounding Rose Hill Farm, where her quiet and unobtrusive charities and good works were practiced for a generation. The following interesting story of her family, written by Miss Thompson, several years before her death, will be appreciated by all lovers of Historical Facts.

"Since Saratoga's early days, long before it became a county, the Thompson family has been identified with its history. From sturdy Scotch ancestry, courageous, intelligent and upright, they had inherited qualities valuable alike to pioneers and the land of their adoption. Never seeking office, believing always that 'the office should seek the man,' four generations have held responsible offices in the county. Never forgetting that 'a public office is a public trust,' they conscientiously performed the duties

of their positions, regardless of any sacrifice of popular favor or private interest. Their ancestors were among those Scotch families who early in the seventeenth century left Argyleshire and settled in Ireland in the Province of Ulster.

“Unhappily the peace and religious liberty they hoped for was not to be found in Ulster, and deprived of their civil and religious rights by the arbitrary laws and exactions in favor of the Established Church of England, they resolved to seek in America a refuge from oppression.

“A memorial dated March 26, 1718, and signed by the leading men of this Scotch colony, was sent to Governor Shute of New Hampshire by Rev. William Boyd. Among the signers were James, Robert, William and John Thompson. Nine subscribers were ‘ministers of the Gospel.’ Three others were ‘graduates of the University of Scotland.’ This document is still preserved. Naturally, Governor Shute sent every encouragement to such very desirable immigrants, who as soon as possible converted their property into money and set sail. Later five ships arrived in Boston Harbor bringing a band of pilgrims to whose indomitable spirit, intelligent and high principle America owes more of her prosperity and fine traits of national character than can ever be estimated. They were of a race quite distinct from the English Puritans.

“General Schuyler used his influence to attract these desirable neighbors, and to Stillwater in the Saratoga Patent came several of the families.

“The Thompson family was one of the first to arrive. One of its members—a boy of fourteen—was destined to take an active part in the development of the new country, then not far from a wilderness. John Thompson’s father, after establishing his family in a comfortable home, and securing to his son the best educational advantages within reach, died before the guns of an invading army disturbed the peace of Stillwater. His son John, trained to a strong sense of duty as a citizen, bore his part manfully in the stirring events which followed. At an early age he married Fanny MacFarland, also of Scotch descent, whose ancestors came with his own to America. He took her to the Stillwater house, where they reared a family of seven children, teaching them “to fear god, love their country

and help their neighbors." During the Revolutionary War, he was captain of the company in which he and some of the neighbors enlisted. In 1788, when Stillwater township was organized, he was appointed one of its first justices. In that year and in 1789 he was a member of the State Assembly. In 1791, when Saratoga took its place as a county, Governor Clinton appointed John Thompson 'First Judge,' which office he held for eighteen years until 1809 when he reached the age of sixty, the limit fixed by law. All contemporary testimony and records prove that he was an upright, fearless and impartial judge, although the study of law had not been included in his education. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1801, called to review the laws of the State, and was elected as a representative to the Sixth, Tenth and Eleventh Congress. In April he writes, 'I am very sorry to hear from Judge Palmer that a division is likely to take place which may injure the Republican interests in our county. I had rather retire in favor of Colonel Thomas than to have the Republican interest broken.' (The Republicans of that time were Jeffersonian Democrats.) One letter, February 17, 1801, is jubilant: 'This day at one o'clock the speaker declared that Thomas Jefferson was duly elected President of the United States.' Judge Thompson had greatly feared the success of Colonel Burr's machinations.

"In October, 1807, he reaches Washington 'after a tedious journey by land and water.' In 1812 he returned to Stillwater and private life. He died in 1823, in his seventy-fifth year. He had the satisfaction of seeing his children established in prosperity, leading useful and honored lives. His son James filled the father's former office as first judge of the county. Dr. Nathan Thompson was a much respected physician in Galway, William a prominent lawyer of Ovid, N. Y., and Charles in active business at Seneca Falls. One daughter had married Dr. Aaron Gregory of Milton and the other Dr. Sears of Stillwater. Both physicians were eminent not only for skill, but high character. Those 'times that tried men's souls' severely tested women's courage. When Mrs. Schuyler was applying the torch to Saratoga wheat-fields—to keep the grain from the British troops (a hard alternative for such a thrifty housewife) Mrs. Thompson

at Stillwater was trying to shield her little family from the coming storm of war—almost at her door, her husband exposed to its fury. When the battle of Bemis Heights began to rage, she was placed in an ox cart with her baby of three days, and a son not two years old, and taken from home for safety.

“Born and bred among these stirring scenes, James Thompson naturally took a deep interest in the events which were making the history of his native county. He finished the course of study at the Schenectady Academy the year before it developed into Union College. After graduating James Thompson studied law and was admitted to the bar soon after attaining his majority. When his father (who had spared no expense in his son’s education) presented him with a good horse, saddle and saddlebags, a gold watch and a hundred dollars, the son felt himself generously supplied for the battle of life. His professional success was remarkable. Within two years this young man—not yet twenty-five—had established a high reputation and a lucrative practice.

“In 1802 James Thompson married a daughter of Abel Whalen, one of the early and influential residents of Milton. She was the mother of his three children. He bought the farm on the Middle Line road formerly called ‘the Judge Thompson place,’ in later years ‘Rose Hill Farm.’ He built first his office, and then from its earnings (never a dollar of debt) the house in which he lived and died and which is still the home of one of his children. He respected his office and scrupulously maintained its dignity for which his own character and bearing eminently fitted him. When he was to charge a jury, young lawyers came for a lesson in clear forcible diction. He has been called ‘the father of the Saratoga county bar.’ When his judicial career closed in 1833, he allowed himself comparative rest. He had married in 1831 a daughter of Daniel Stansbury of New York city. Judge Thompson’s sudden death in 1845 was a shock and grief to the community.

“Judge Thompson’s second son, John Whalen Thompson, born December 19, 1808, inherited the mental power of his father and grandfather. His education was carefully supervised by his father. Milton Hill Acad-

emy, Charlton Academy and the famous Lansingburg Academy complete his preparation for college. He graduated with honor at Union College in 1827. In 1831 he was admitted an attorney of the Supreme Court and began practice in Ballston Spa. In 1834, Governor Marcy appointed John W. Thompson Surrogate of Saratoga county, and that position he held until 1846, when the new constitution took effect. Mr. Thompson's unusual ability in financial affairs led him early to take a deep interest in the organization of the Ballston Spa Bank, of which he was one of the original incorporators in 1838. His reputation for uncompromising integrity and conservative management were of great advantage to the bank. In 1856, Mr. Thompson was made president of the bank, and thereafter devoted himself to its care and management until his death. He rendered it a very successful and sound institution. In several instances, through correspondence with senators, his ideas were adopted and utilized by Congress in financial legislation following the Civil war.

"Reserved and retiring by nature, John W. Thompson avoided rather than courted prominence in public affairs. His dislike of ostentation and display was great. The accumulation of wealth never tempted him to alter his simple mode of life. He married, early in life, a daughter of Joel Lee, who, after a life of devotion to her family and her church, died in 1871. John W. Thompson lived to the age of eighty-four and died on June 28, 1892, leaving three sons and one daughter. His eldest son, George Lee Thompson, succeeded his father as president of the Ballston Spa Bank. Ill health compelled him to withdraw from active life for some time before his death, which occurred on December 29, 1895, in his sixty-first year. When his sister, Alice Thompson, died in Europe in 1898, a noble life ended. She had 'done good by stealth' in such large measure that only her death revealed its extent."

The same might be said of Rhoda Thompson that she said of her niece Alice Thompson, "done good by stealth." In her long, and interesting story of the family, hers is the only name omitted.

Rhoda Thompson was a woman of excellent judgment and rare executive ability, who had made and retained a large circle of friends. She was

of a most cultured mind, of genial personality, and one ever interested in all that spelled advancement, doing much in a quiet manner. She was an ardent lover of her country, and intensely interested in all questions touching the public welfare. She reached her opinions with calmness and deliberation, and was pre-eminently just and impartial in forming her judgments. Quiet, unostentatious, unobtrusive, she was, nevertheless, a power in the community. Miss Thompson died in the ninetieth year of her age, having illustrated through her long life the power and beauty of an influence that finds its impulse in the words of our Teacher and Lord, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

After Miss Thompson's death which occurred August 8, 1923, the following "In Memoriam" was published to her memory:

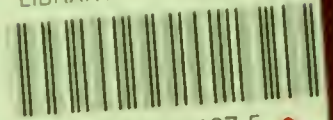
"The death of Miss Rhoda Thompson, the first treasurer of Wia-waka, has saddened the hearts of her many friends. When help and encouragement were much needed, Miss Thompson brought to the house in those early days the help of her wise counsel and appreciative sympathy. The workers who were privileged to meet her in her lovely home (Rose Hill Farm, Ballston Spa) will never forget her beautiful presence and her always gracious welcome. Miss Thompson's very long and very active life on her old beloved farm gave her a wide and valuable knowledge of practical affairs, and she was always ready to give of her best to those in need of aid and encouragement. Her presence and loving words were a benediction. 'Her life had the placid strength of a noble river, her death was its gentle broadening into a dawn-lit-sea.'"

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